



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/593,231	09/18/2006	Koji Abe	740709-565	9363
22204	7590	05/22/2009	EXAMINER	
NIXON PEABODY, LLP 401 9TH STREET, NW SUITE 900 WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2128			WEINER, LAURA S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1795	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			05/22/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/593,231	ABE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	/Laura S. Weiner/	1795	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 September 2006.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-12 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-11, drawn to an electrolytic solution comprising a tert-alkylbenzene compound and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms.

Group II, claim(s) 12, drawn to a method of preparing pure tert-alkylbenzene compound.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Invention I claims an electrolyte solution and Invention II claims a method for making a pure tert-alkylbenzene compound.

3. This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

A) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is sec-butylbenzene and/or isopropylbenzene.

B) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is isopropylbenzene, 1,2-dimethylpropylbenzene, 1,2-dimethylindan, 1,3—dimethylindan, and/or 1-methyltetrahydronaphthalene.

C) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1,3-di-tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-butyl-3-isopropylbenzene.

D) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1, 4-di-tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-butyl-4-isopropylbenzene.

E) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 4-fluoro-tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 4-fluoro-isopropylbenzene and/or 4-fluoro-sec-butylbenzene.

F) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 4-tert-butylbiphenyl) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 4-sec-butylbiphenyl.

G) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1,3-di-tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-pentyl-3-isopropylbenzene.

H) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1, 4-di-tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-pentyl-4- isopropylbenzene.

I) a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1-tert-butyl-4-tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-butyl-4- isopropylbenzene.

Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

4. The claims are deemed to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner:

Please pick one claim from claims 2-10 to examine.

Claim 2: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is sec-butylbenzene and/or isopropylbenzene.

Claim 3: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is isopropylbenzene, 1,2-dimethylpropylbenzene, 1,2-dimethylindan, 1,3—dimethylindan, and/or 1-methyltetrahydronaphthalene.

Claim 4: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1,3-di-tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-butyl-3-isopropylbenzene.

Claim 5: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1, 4-di-tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-butyl-4-isopropylbenzene.

Claim 6: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 4-fluoro-tert-butylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 4-fluoro-isopropylbenzene and/or 4-fluoro-sec-butylbenzene.

Art Unit: 1795

Claim 7: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 4-tert-butylbiphenyl) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 4-sec-butylbiphenyl.

Claim 8: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1,3-di-tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-pentyl-3-isopropylbenzene.

Claim 9: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1, 4-di-tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-pentyl-4-isopropylbenzene.

Claim 10: a tert-alkylbenzene compound (a 1-tert-butyl-4-tert-pentylbenzene) and a benzene compound having a benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom is 1-tert-butyl-4-isopropylbenzene.

The following claim(s) are generic: claims 1 and 11.

5. The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The tert-alkylbenzene compounds are each different as well as the benzene ring substituted with a hydrocarbon group having 1-4 carbon atoms via at least one tertiary carbon atom.

6. A telephone call was not made due to the complexity to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, therefore did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the

requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

7. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to /Laura S. Weiner/ whose telephone number is 571-272-1294. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Ryan can be reached on 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Laura S Weiner/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1795

May 21, 2009